

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (CDFA)
CALIFORNIA CITRUS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CCAC)
Meeting Minutes
Tulare, CA
December 21, 2006

Members Attending

Robert LoBue
Nick Hill
Ken Chipchase
Ron Matik
Kevin Severns
Brett Kirkpatrick
John Eliot

CDFA Representatives

Kevin Masuhara
Steve Patton
Susan Shelton

Interested Parties

Dennis Plann, Fresno County
Scotti Walker, Fresno County
Sam Vorhees, Kern County
Don Borges, Tulare County
Ron Bray, Riverside County
Tom Valenzuela, Kaweah Packing

ITEM 1: ROLL CALL

Chairman Brett Kirkpatrick called the meeting to order at 1:09 p.m. Mr. Kevin Masuhara called roll. A quorum was not established.

ITEM 2: APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 20, 2006 MEETING MINUTES

Item held over until next committee meeting.

ITEM 3: REVENUE REPORT/FUND BALANCE

Mr. Kevin Masuhara presented copies of the California Citrus Program's Revenue Report and Fund Balances. He explained the report reflects monthly revenue from both the Citrus and Orange Crop Programs.

Number of containers and revenue from October 2005 to September 2006 are:

	# Containers	Crop Revenue
Navel	62,552,808	\$ 375,316.85
Valencia	22,587,316	79,055.61
Lemon	20,144,897	20,144.90
Mandarin	3,870,755	5,806.13

Fund balances as of November 30, 2006 total \$1,810,609. Specific account balances are:

Certificates of Deposit	\$1,000,000
Bank of America	660,092

Ag. Statistics Fund	96,442
Ag. Fund	54,075

ITEM 4: SUMMARY OF COUNTY INSPECTION RESULTS

Monthly activity reports for Fresno, Kern, Riverside and Tulare counties were presented. Those counties in attendance presented their individual information. The information included how many premises were inspected; number of lots and containers inspected and rejected; number of maturity tests completed; and county costs to date. A handout was given to the committee members containing this information.

Actual County costs are:

	Cost	As of Date
Fresno	\$ 48,067	December 17, 2006
Kern	39,181	November 30, 2006
Riverside	9,302	November 30, 2006
Tulare	132,464	December 16, 2006

ITEM 5: CONTINUATION OF MATURITY TESTING

Riverside County reported they have not yet started packing local fruit, and expect to continue maturity testing through January. Kern and Tulare have stopped maturity testing and are now spot-checking for freeze. Fresno plans to continue maturity testing until December 24, 2006 and then will begin monitoring for freeze.

As a quorum was not established, the committee could not make a motion for cessation or continuation of testing. An informal discussion ensued regarding the needs of industry. Historically, the committee has had the counties continue inspection through January. The counties will use their discretion, within the scope of their contracts, for continuation of inspection activity.

If a freeze occurs, the committee will meet again to provide direction and authorize the counties regarding emergency inspection activities. To date, the lowest temperature recorded in Kern County was 25 degrees and 24 degrees in Tulare.

ITEM 6: OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Masuhara stated CDFA is still examining the issue of standardizing the various container sizes for determining assessment payments. Due to the involvement of

various commodity groups, a methodical approach is needed. What is good for citrus may not be for other commodities. Mr. Nick Hill stated industry should be brought into the discussion.

Mr. Kirkpatrick requested the record show CCAC has asked CDFA to address this issue. CDFA will also take this issue to the Standardization Advisory Committee for input. Options will be presented at the spring meetings of both committees.

Regarding equitable contributions for lemons and mandarins to the freeze reserve, Mr. Masuhara explained the determination of assessments is still in progress. Each committee member should receive recommendations in report format by early February.

For a review on roles and how the committee interfaces with industry and CDFA, each member received a copy of the California Food and Agriculture Code, Section 48001 and the CCAC Procedures.

ITEM 7: NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be March 8, 2007 in Tulare, CA at 1:00 P.M. The committee requested all handouts be sent with the agenda and notice prior to the next meeting.

ITEM 8: ADJOURNMENT

The committee adjourned at 2:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Kevin Masuhara, Program Supervisor
Inspection and Compliance Branch
Inspection Services

KM/ss